PTO/SB/21 (09-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 10/756.984 TRANSMITTA Filing Date January 14, 2004 First Named Inventor **FORM** Robert Ian Hedley Art Unit **Examiner Name** Gregory W. Adams (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Attorney Docket Number Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to TC Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC 1 Petition Amendment/Reply (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a Proprietary Information After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Affidavits/declaration(s) Change of Correspondence Address Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify Terminal Disclaimer **Extension of Time Request** below): Return postcard Request for Refund **Express Abandonment Request** CD, Number of CD(s)_ Information Disclosure Statement Landscape Table on CD Certified Copy of Priority Remarks Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Name McAfee & Taft Signature Printed name Clifford C. Dougherty, III Date Reg. No. April 11, 2005 31,607

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

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Date | April 11, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions deviating this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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APR 1 3 2005 S IN THE SHITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Robert Ian Hedley et al.)	
• •	·)	Group Art Unit: 3652
Serial No.:	10/756,984)	
)	Examiner: Gregory W. Adams
Filed:	January 14, 2004)	
)	
For	A TOW HITCH ARRANGEMENT)	

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner For Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action (restriction and/or election requirement) mailed on March 11, 2005.

In the Office Action, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 1-13 (FIGS. 1-16) drawn to a tow hitch assembly, classified in class 280, subclass 425.2.
- II. Claims 14-25 (FIGS. 17-36) drawn to a loading trailer, classified in class 414, subclass 481.

In response, Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-13 (FIGS. 1-16). Accordingly, please withdraw claims 14-25 without prejudice to Applicants' right to file a divisional application directed to such claims.

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Clifford C. Dougherty, III